



Defense Security Cooperation Agency  
**NEWS RELEASE**

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Media/Public Contact: (703) 601-3670

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Date: 16 December 2005

Transmittal No. 06-12

## **Pakistan - M109A5 155mm Self-propelled Howitzers**

On 16 December 2005, the Defense Security Cooperation Agency notified Congress of a possible Foreign Military Sale to Pakistan of 115 M109A5 155mm self-propelled howitzers as well as associated equipment and services. The total value, if all options are exercised, could be as high as \$56 million.

The Government of Pakistan has requested a possible sale of 115 M109A5 155mm self-propelled howitzers, spare and repair parts, support and test equipment, publications and technical documentation, personnel training and training equipment, Quality Assurance Team, U. S. Government logistics personnel services, and other related elements of logistics support. The estimated cost is \$56 million.

This proposed sale will contribute to the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a friendly country that continues to be a key ally in the global war on terrorism.

Pakistan currently operates M109A2 self-propelled howitzers and will use this new procurement to re-equip existing units and retire older artillery pieces, modernizing the Army's fire support capability. Pakistan will use these howitzers to improve its current fleet of ground defense equipment. The proposed equipment will assist Pakistan in improving its internal command and control of the mountain range bordering its country. Pakistan will have no difficulty absorbing the howitzers into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not affect the basic military balance in the region.

No contractor is involved for this purchase of the howitzers. Equipment is considered long supply and is no longer utilized by the U.S. Government.

There will be a Technical Assistance Field Team (TAFT) and U.S. Government Quality Assurance Team for one year to check out the equipment. A TAFT will participate for two-week intervals twice annually to participate in program management and technical reviews.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

This notice of a potential sale is required by law; it does not mean that the sale has been concluded.